



2009626



## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 8

999 18<sup>TH</sup> STREET - SUITE 300

DENVER, CO 80202-2466

Phone 800-227-8917

<http://www.epa.gov/region08>

February 18, 2003

Ref: 8EPR-SR

Charles Stambaugh  
1325 Airstrip Road  
Libby, MT 59923

Dear Mr. Stambaugh:

This letter is to follow up our conversation on Wednesday, February 12, at the EPA Information Center in Libby. During that conversation, you explained that one of the reasons you recently purchased the above referenced property was your belief that the property was on a "priority" list for remediation by EPA. In fact, as late as December 2002, EPA was considering remediation of the property during winter 2002-2003, but only because the previous owner, Mr. Drew Munroe, had requested the building be demolished without replacement or compensation from EPA. When this request was withdrawn, either by you or Mr. Munroe, EPA removed the property from consideration for remediation during the winter. This is reflected in a letter from Duc Nguyen to you also. We discussed EPA's reasoning behind this decision and I reiterated that we could not remediate your property until approximately May at the earliest.

At our meeting, you also indicated you had only six weeks until you had to vacate your current residence. Because your new property is not yet ready for habitation and is contaminated, you requested EPA store your personal property until such time that it could be stored at your new property.

We agreed to the following things:

1. EPA will store your personal property, pending a joint inspection and inventory, at our cost until our remediation of the referenced property is complete. A representative of EPA will contact you in the near future. This arrangement is acceptable to EPA because storage of your personal property, as opposed to placing it in a heavily contaminated building and cleaning it later, is advantageous to the government. This assumes that the amount of property is reasonable for household goods at a small house.
2. EPA will only store your personal property until our remediation of the referenced property is complete. At that time, the property will be solely your responsibility.
3. EPA will begin design work for your property in the next few weeks, so that you have some idea of what work we will need to accomplish and you can begin to plan



renovation/improvement of your property as soon as possible. A representative of EPA will contact you on this as well.

4. EPA will target cleanup of the property for late spring or early summer but can only guarantee two weeks notice for the actual cleanup start date.

I hope this is satisfactory. If you have not been contacted by a representative of EPA by March 10, or if you have any questions, please contact the EPA Information Center at 293-6194.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Christiansen', written over a horizontal line.

Jim Christiansen  
Remedial Project Manager